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Cartoonist  
Jalal Al  
Rifai in his  
office



Jalal's self 'portrait'

Through his drawings, Jalal Al Rifai has become a daily companion to the readers of Arabic newspapers around the world. In his office at the Jordanian daily 'Ad-Dustour' the cartoonist talked about his career and the world of caricature.

## Sensitive "thermometre" for people's concerns

By Khaldoon Tabaza  
Special to The Star

"I think that I inherited some of my talent from my family," Jalal says. "Talent is something you are born with and caricature isn't something you can study academically."

Jalal comes from an artistic family. Both his father and grandfather were calligraphers. He believes a cartoonist develops his talent through a lot of practice. A certain cultural background is also helpful in interpreting what's happening around you and putting these observations into a comprehensive artistic output reflecting people's feelings and problems.

Jalal's interest in drawing showed at an early age. When he was about ten years old his teachers noticed his tidy handwriting and put him in charge of the school's newsletter.

At the age of eighteen Jalal got a school holiday job in 'Al Jihad' newspaper in Jerusalem where he learned a lot from calligrapher Yusef Al Najjar. "This was my first encounter with the world of journalism, and I also learned a lot from Egyptian magazines like 'Sabah El Khair' and 'Rose El Youssef' which were the only illustrated magazines we had then," Jalal says.

Jalal chooses art as a career at a time when art was not considered an easy way to "feed bread" — a bold move on my part, the

cartoonist says adding that art is not considered a proper job even today.

The subjects and inspiration of Jalal's cartoons come from his daily interaction with people in the street; he takes notice of situations that may make a good cartoon.

"As an artist and journalist I have a special 'thermometre' for what's happening around me. An artist should never confine himself to an ivory tower and cartoonists in particular should re-



fect people's concerns through their art," he says. But he also follows the local and foreign press and uses radio and television news to keep up-to-date with current affairs. He also enjoys reading new books whenever he can.

A good cartoon "is a combination of fine drawing with good commentary," Jalal says. He does not think that comment — sometimes a feature of his work — weakens the cartoon. "Well it's a point of view. I think it depends on the subject, and sometimes I really like to express myself

through text," Jalal adds.

Throughout his career, Jalal, like all other cartoonists, had to work within a defined margin of freedom. "Even in established democracies there is a limitation on the freedom of a cartoonist," he explains. "In the Arab world we have not yet reached the point where we can involve political figures in our cartoons."

Embarrassing situations are also common in Jalal's career. Sometimes he gets complaints from a person who thinks that he is the target of a particular cartoon, but Jalal claims he doesn't draw to target anybody in particular. A cartoonist often generalises situations and this can cause embarrassments.

Artists and journalists have always been rebellious, trying to break the monotonous systems of society. "Working in the press leaves you in a state of tension and unrest that your readers don't feel," says Jalal, reflecting on this point.

"There is always the worry about being able to give the readers a satisfactory cartoon every day."

Sometimes Jalal is inspired to draw in the middle of the night or other inconvenient times. He explains that this affects his family life and privacy. "It can get very tiring," he says.

"If I weren't a cartoonist I would be a novelist," the author of two children's stories admits, "but I'd rather concentrate on the field I'm already successful in."

## INTERFACE SAMER KURDI Computer Flu

WHEN I first sat down in front of a computer some 8 years ago, I had what must be a typical beginner's impression that the computer was some sort of electronic "brain" which was probably capable of calculating, thinking, problem solving, and who knows, possibly arguing! It wasn't long, though, before I was guided into the realisation that what I was dealing with was yet another "dumb machine".

To me, thoughts of computers as "intelligent beings" were very brief, yet when I first heard of a 'computer virus', these early moments suddenly flashed up in my memory, but, although it makes compelling reading, the concept of a 'computer virus' is once again not as glamorous as it initially seems.

Computer viruses are merely very small programs which reside within the memory and adapt themselves to occupy any free area within it, so as not to interfere with any programs the system might be working with, thereby exposing themselves. A typical virus runs quietly in the background while you use your computer for business (or, as it is, leisure) as usual, and although each virus has its own specific function in "life", they all have one thing in common which is to duplicate themselves within the computer's storage medium(s) and/or any networks it might be linked to. Nearly all viruses usually also install a self-loading mechanism so as to "come to life" each time the computer is switched on or the infected software used.

The different effects of infection are truly numerous and sometimes quite imaginative. From the relatively harmless "your computer is alive" sudden messages, the switching of the mouse pointer's axis or the odd balls bouncing across the screen, to the more irritating sudden blackouts, disk corruptions or the devastatingly destructive hard-disk wipeouts. All viruses no matter how seemingly harmless, are abnormalities within the system and cause damage in one way or the other, these programs are usually written by teenage hackers or individuals who take up the 'challenge' of making a virus, and spread it without any consideration to the damage these programmes might cause. The widespread duplication of software (legally or otherwise) has led to the vast spreading of these viruses on nearly all computer formats, but life was made easier for us computer users by the introduction of 'vaccines', or virus killers which can search out and destroy most of these programs.

The introduction of the computer virus concept has brought with it a new phase of computer crime. Viruses have been deliberately installed on the computer networks of large hospitals which have led to the loss of huge libraries of medical records in the US. Similar incidents of computer fraud were reported in banks and military institutions, viruses have also been used in espionage by intelligence systems and most developed countries have started to allocate huge budgets yearly to combat such computer crime.

## RALLIES

### Abu Samra wins the Hayyat National Rally

AMMAN (Star) — The Hayyat National Rally came to an exciting end last Friday with 14 cars out of 22 finishing all the stages. Marouf Abu Samra, driving his Daihatsu Charade came in first with Issa Helal, driving a Nissan 240 RS coming in second with a four seconds difference. Issa, who might be participating for the last time this year, was still behind Shlekh Hammad and Marouf Abu Samra in the morning stages. "In the afternoon we decided to step on it, and Shlekh Hammad's car broke down under his pressure, and later, the navigation miracles so we caught up with Marouf," Issa told The Star at the end of the Rally. "The rally was really nice. Fast and short stages with little time differences," Issa added.

Commenting on the rally Mr Eric Ledger, general manager of the rally said "Well, it was a very successful rally, it went very smoothly with no problems or accidents and it was an excellent event from every aspect. The competitors enjoyed it and the results were very close and this shows that we have good and strong competition."

The next rally to be held in Jordan is going to take place on the 1st of July according to Mr Ledger. "It's an international off-road rally with 4WD cars, Land Rover, Range Rover and Nissan Patrol kind of things and we will have drivers from all over the Middle East taking part."

28 JUNE 1990



Summer silks  
page 14

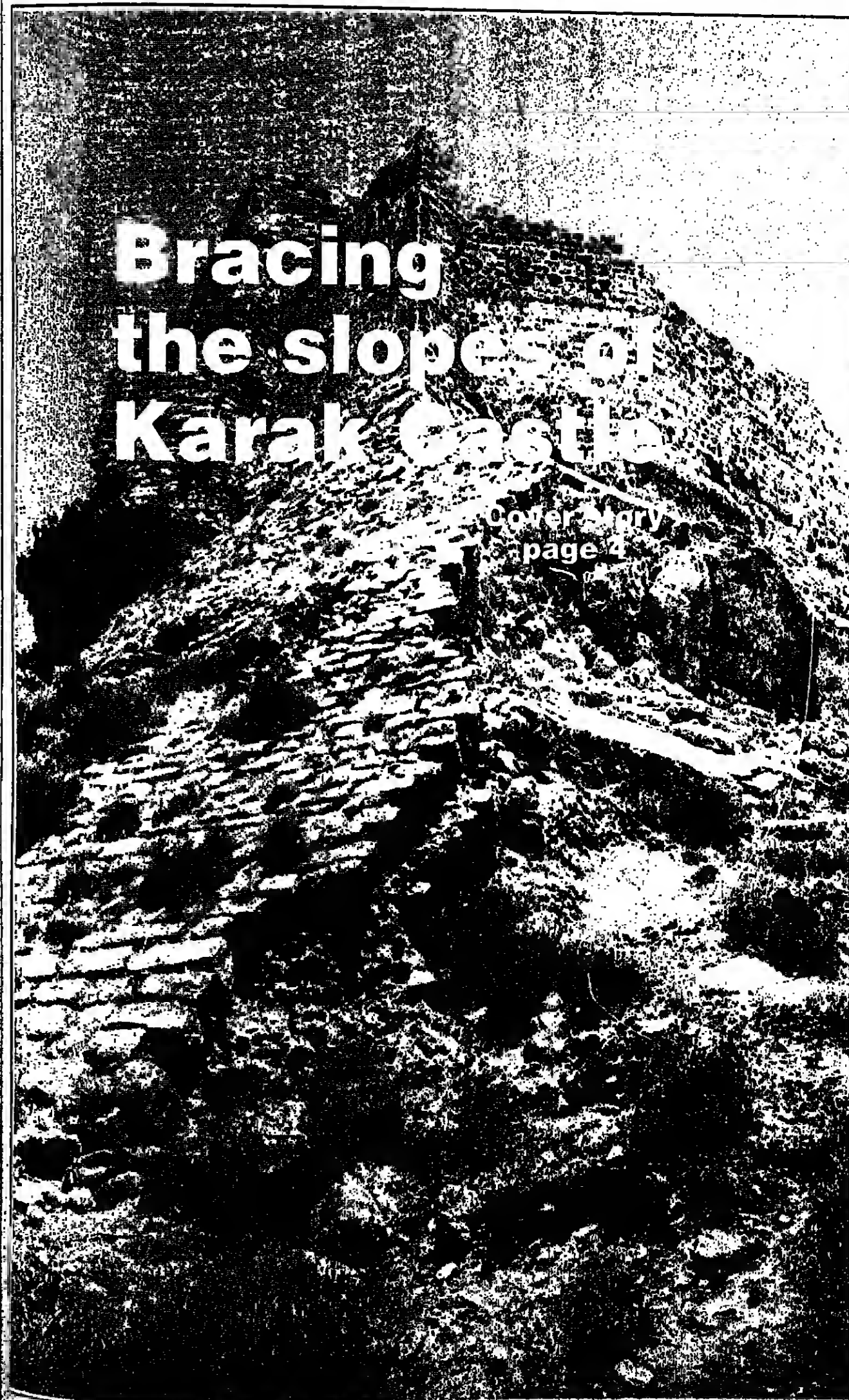
# The Star

Jordan's political, economic and cultural weekly

Amman, 12 — 18 July 1990

اسبوعية سياسية مستقلة

Vol : 1 No : 24



## Bracing the slopes of Karak Castle

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Dr As'ad Abdul Rahman on armed struggle, page 11





### On the record

Under the Royal Patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor, the Ninth Jerash Festival for Culture and Art was opened on Wednesday. The festival which will last until 27 July will host a number of local, Arab and international troupes.

The meetings of the Higher Jordanian-Egyptian Joint Committee (HJEJC) which were supposed to start Saturday, 14 July, will be postponed till next week due to the engagement of the Egyptian side with the visit of Syrian Pres-

ident Hafez Al Assad in Cairo will start Saturday. Meanwhile, the Egyptian under secretary at the Ministry of Economy will arrive in Amman today, Thursday, to attend the meetings of the preparatory committee for (WJEC) to discuss with his Jordanian counterparts means of increasing the volume of commercial exchange between Cairo and Amman.

The four ACC countries have decided to set up a joint fund that will finance technical and technological research. In co-operation with specialised centres and universities, the fund will also provide consultancy services to ACC member



President Assad

states.

Minister of Transport and Communications Mr Nabil Abu Al Huda is in India for talks with officials on means of promoting Jordanian-Indian co-operation in the field of aviation.



Nabil Abu Al Huda

The government has decided to appoint Sharif Fawaz Sharaf as Jordan's permanent representative in the United Nations office in Geneva. Sharif Sharaf was



Sharif Sharaf

Jordan's ambassador to West Germany.

Talks are underway among member states of the Arab operation Council (ACC) to issue unified car licenses that will be recognised by the authorities in Jordan, Egypt, Yemen and Iraq.

Minister of Information Mr Ibrahim Izzeddine will head Jordan's delegation to the meetings of the Arab Ministers of Information Council which will be held in Baghdad on 5 August. The delegation to the three-day meeting will also include Mr Ali Al Safadi, Director General of Jordan News Agen-



Ibrahim Izzeddine

cy, Petra, and Petra's correspondent in Baghdad Mr Majed Sam.

Deputy speaker of the Indian Upper House of Parliament Dr Neelam Hebtullah arrived in Amman Wednesday for a two-day visit during which she will meet with Speaker of Upper House of Parliament Mr Ahmad Al Lawzi, and speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Mr Suleiman Arar.

Police sources in Aqaba have said that about 168,000 Egyptians have crossed to Egypt during last month.

Jordan will participate in the Damascus Annual International Exhibition which will be held in the Syrian capital next month.

Jordan's production of cigarettes during the first quarter of this year amounted to 937.2 million cigarettes.

## Drought victims receive \$1.8 m worth of food aid

AMMAN (Star)- The drought-affected small farmers and livestock breeders in the southern and eastern parts of the Kingdom will in November this year receive \$ 1.8 million worth of emergency food assistance.

The assistance, which will be provided by the World Food Programme (WFP), will comprise the distribution of 4255 tons of wheat flour, 215 tons of vegetable oil and 430 tons of pulses among 17,500 farm families. The assistance programme will extend over a period of 135 days.

The government made the request for this assistance from the WFP during a meeting that was held between Minister of Agriculture, Dr Sulaiman Arabiyat, and WFP Executive Director, Mr James Ingram, in Amman last month.

The WFP Amman Office and the Ministry of Agriculture had earlier in May conducted a field assessment in the governorates of Karak, Ma'an and Tafila to determine the numbers of the small farmers and livestock breeders who were mostly affected by the drought.

Two thousand and four hundred farmers and 2465 livestock owners in Ma'an, 6250 farmers and 1842 livestock breeders in Karak, and 3255 farmers and 1260 livestock owners in Tafila who own a maximum of 100 dunams of cultivable land or 100 heads of livestock will be benefiting from the aid programme.

The assistance will provide partial compensation to the farmers and livestock owners who suffered heavy losses as a result of the drought that hit the country during the 1989/90 agricultural season.

This emergency assistance will bring to \$ 35 million the amount of aid that will be provided to Jordan by the WFP during the years 1990-1995.

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## Local human rights group open for business

AMMAN (Star)- The newly established Amman chapter of the Arab Human Rights Organisation (AHRO) will not have any political activities and will be solely concerned with the protection of public freedoms and basic rights of citizens.

"The chapter will not aim at making any political gains and will only work towards helping citizens whose rights have been violated," President of the chapter Mr Najib Al Rashdan told The Star on Wednesday.

So far, however, The pressure group has "no information on any case of human rights violation in Jordan," according to Mr Rashdan.

Mr Rashdan, who is a member of the Upper House of Parliament and former



Mr Najib Al Rashdan

president of the Court of Cassation, said that the group's office, located in Jebel Al Hussain, will offer help to any citizen who has evidence of human rights violation against him or any other person. Once the chapter is aware of any

such case, according to Mr Rashdan, it will pursue the matter with the concerned authorities, appoint a lawyer to the citizen in question and exercise pressure on the authorities through publishing the information it has if the authorities refuse to co-operate.

Other fields of operation of the privately funded organisation will be educating the public on their rights as citizens. To this end, Mr Rashdan said that the chapter will organise public lectures and seminars on the issue, and issue a number of publications that provide the citizens with information on their civil rights.

Mr Rashdan said that the chapter, which was officially opened on 22 June, will in the near future organise a seminar on human rights in co-

operation with the AHRO-affiliated Human Rights Institute of Tunis. The seminar, in which a number of experts will participate, will aim at training Jordanian and other Arab citizens in the field of human rights.

Through maintaining close contacts and co-operation with AHRO head office in Cairo and other international organisations, the chapter will also work to expose Israeli violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territories, and to draw world public attention to the suffering of Palestinians under occupation.

Membership to the chapter is open to any Jordanian citizen over 25 years of age and has no criminal record for a fee of JD 25.

**a touch of heritage of different nations**

For Culture & Arts 11 July - 27 July 1990

Mevlevi Some Group / Turkey				
13,14/7	The Mevlevi Some group from the city of Konya, a very ancient city 240 K.M. south of Ankara. The group presents the "Sema" dance inspired by the ceremony of the "Sema" which takes place in Konya in the month of December to commemorate the death of Mevlana, the great mystic poet founder of the Order of the Whirling Dervishes.	8:30	South Theatre	2JD
15/7		7:30		
15,16/7	Atherbiglan State Ballet	9:30	South Theatre	4JD
The Gery Burton Jazz Quintet / The United States				
15,16/7	Gery Burton is not only a master improviser and fine band leader but he is also a gifted talent scout with an unerring knack for discovering young musicians of great potential. The ability to spot and integrate new talent into his band has been a Burton trademark since he organized his first band in 1967. The group has been successful with both the rock audience and traditional jazz fans, as well as the usual jazz festivals and concerts. Featuring: Donald Paul Macaluso / saxophone, Wolfgang Muhsap / guitarist, Merle Richard / drummer, Larry Drenander / bassist	9:30	Artamis	3JD
The National Performing Arts Group / Pakistan				
12,13/7 14,15/7	Established about twenty years back, it was founded by the Pakistan International Airlines. In 1972 it was taken over by the Ministry of Culture and was renamed National Song and Dance Ensemble. In 1976, the group was rechristened as National Performing Arts Group, the name it bears even today. The group consists of a team of talented dancers supported by an experienced orchestra. The indigenous music instruments played by the orchestra include Sarangi, Flute, Sitar, Alghosa, Ghara, Dholak and Tabla. The group has given performances in thirty countries and have earned wide acclaim.	8:30	The Forum	1JD
The Siring Jazz Quartet				
21,22/7	The Siring Jazz Quartet was founded by the famous French guitarist Christian Escoudé. The band consists of three guitarists as well as an accordionist - Marcel Azoula - They played for the first time in Paris and have participated in several regional festivals.	9:30	Artamis	3JD
The Sonja Merinkovic / Yugoslavia				
16,17/7 18,19/7	The academic ensemble folk dances and songs "Sonja Merinkovic" was established in 1982. Its programme is based on ethnically diverse customs of folk arts, melody, dance. This programme contributes in saving the folk arts of nations and settlements of Yugoslavia. For about 25 years of working, the ensemble has a series of approvals in Yugoslavia and in other countries, taking part in many festivals and tours (Austria, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, Turkey, Sweden, Tunisia, France, Italy, India, Greece, Germany, Poland) that it has turned into a top Yugoslav ensemble.	8:30	The Forum	1JD
ASA SINGH MASTANA & PARTI				
24,25/7 26/7	This group, specializing in singing & dancing have been performing successfully in India & abroad since 1970. The leader Mr. Anand Singh Mastana is an award winning singer of Punjab who has been awarded various national awards like Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan and various others. He is a legend in his life time & a household name in India as well as abroad. He is the disciple of Pandit Durga Prasad Kothari, of 1980. This group has performed in London, Dubai, Hong Kong, Canada, USA, Kuwait, Algeria and Jakarta and small other countries and all over India.	8:30	The Forum	1JD
The Warsaw Accordion Quintet / Poland				
26/7 27/7	The Warsaw Accordion Quintet was founded in 1981 by Wladimir Puchonowski. The members of the quintet are leading Polish artists and outstanding personalities among the young generation of accordion players. The Warsaw Accordion Quintet took part in a number of music festivals and philharmonic concerts not only at home but also in Austria, Finland, Korea, Norway, Italy, the Soviet Union and Sweden. Due to its artistic merits and achievements the Quintet was conferred in 1988 the Merit Award of the confederation Internationale des Accordéonistes. The Warsaw Quintet is hereby the first and only chamber group awarded this honourable distinction.	9:30 8:30	Artamis	3JD

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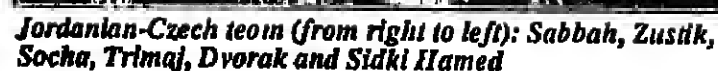


**By a Star Staff Writer**

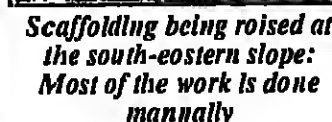
The recommendations of the NRA report called for the immediate connection of the whole city with the main sewage system, cleaning and filling the



When the Czech team arrived to conduct their study of the castle, they studied the information and statistics in the NRA report and came out with similar conclusions and recommendations. But the most urgent of the team's calls was the immediate restoration and re-enforcement of the castle's retaining walls, especially in the worst-damaged eastern and south-eastern slopes. Later, the NRA signed a two-year agreement with Strojexport to provide for an extraordinary geo-



Work on the three-phase project began early this year and is now about a third of the complicated civil engineering work on the



"Work on the site has included various sorts of re-enforcement," says Eng. Sabbah, who is also the project's co-ordinator. "Methods such as grouting, deep

"We wonder how this side has not collapsed bringing down the tower above it until now," said

### Karak Castle: A b

With the change of power through the coming of the Ottomans, the castle continued to act as headquarters for troops and governors, and was used for the storage and exchange of the agricultural products of the area as well as housing pilgrims on their way to Mecca. Its massive architecture fared well throughout the centuries until several parts suffered the shelling of Ibrahim Pasha's troops during their attempts to conquer southern Palestine and Transjordan for Egypt's governor in 1893. Additional damage occurred during the 1927 earthquake that hit the area.

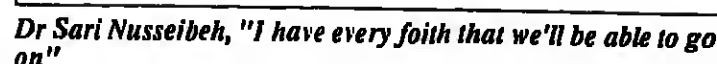
Since the 1950s, the castle lost its military character for the first time since its construction, and got turned into a tourist attraction run by the Department of Antiquities.

A: I have no idea. But you have to think not only of what the Palestinians are doing but also what kind of bullets to use, etc. It basically means that on both the Israeli and the Palestinian sides, there is a rising propensity to use violence.

**Dr Sari Nusseibeh, professor of philosophy at Bir Zeit University, is a self-professed optimist when it comes to the future of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Nusseibeh is one of the Palestinian "figures" courted by the Western press as something of unofficial spokesmen for the Palestinians. He expresses even-handed views in his soft-spoken, fluent English and has long held to moderate solutions of the thorny conflict. But 31 months into the Intifada, even this man is now talking of deterioration, heightened violence and war. Kate Casa recently interviewed him for The Star in Jerusalem.**

**Q:** So where will that lead?  
**A:** Anything is possible. I don't think it's too outrageous to find ourselves slipping into a war.  
**Q:** Is the Intifada at a turning point, then?  
**A:** Not the Intifada. History? Yes, there is a crossroad and it was determined at Rishon LeTzion. A lot of attitudes — a lot of decisions — could have helped to direct things one way or the

***"Israel will do its best to try and stop any progress toward peace and to prevent withdrawal from the occupied territories or giving the Palestinians any rights. And the existence of the present government is a sign of it."***



When we talk about the world community we're not just talking about peace initiatives. We're

getting in a worse position and we're getting in a better one internationally, locally, on every level.



# Islamic art set to spread its wings

Ily Shirley Rizvi  
Special to The Star

LONDON — International education in, and appreciation of Islamic art is set to increase with the opening of new educational and exhibition centres, as well as the growth of collections in western and eastern lands. This was the overall impression of academics and art experts who attended a recent London seminar on Islamic art in the 1990s.

Princess Wijdan Ali, president of the Royal Society of Fine Arts (RSFA), one of the panellists in the seminar organised by Eastern Art Report international magazine and the Centre for Near East Asia and Africa Research (NEAR), said Islamic art was greatly in need of patronage to help that process towards public education and international promotion. It was also greatly in need of unbiased support from the media, she added.

Citing the difficulties with the organisation of a contemporary Islamic art exhibition in London last year, she said that at least one British newspaper refused even to send its critic to the show unless it received paid advertising for the exhibition, which was organised jointly by RSFA and the Islamic Arts Foundation of UK.

Although thousands of people went to see the show and admired the works of artists from Muslim lands of Asia and Africa, the London press all but ignored the exhibition.

Despite such setbacks, however, panellists in the seminar, entitled "Islamic Art in the 1990s," cited important progress towards education in Islamic art. In London a \$1 million Chair in Islamic art and archaeology was recently set up at the University of London through the efforts of a collector and former student, Dr Nasser D Khalili, and the Royal College of Art has successfully graduated western and eastern students under the leadership of the scholar and architect, Dr Keith Critchlow.

Addressing the seminar, Dr Critchlow said the Visual Islamic Unit which he headed at the college had been going for six years and had qualified five doctoral students and 16 MA students, many of them Europeans, in aspects of Islamic art and architecture.

"We are trying to teach what we understand to be an im-

With its market value already on the rise and international appreciation transcending boundaries, Islamic art has found new moorings with the growth of institutions offering education in its origins, historical significance and modern context.



Princess Wijdan Ali and Dr Nasser D Khalili at the London seminar on Islamic Art in the 1990s.

mensely profound contribution to world culture," he said. "Islamic contribution to world culture is second to none, and I don't say that as a Muslim, so that nobody can accuse me of waving a flag for any particular position."

Professor Geza Fehervari from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) of the University of London emphasised the significance of Islamic art in the present European environment. Putting the subject in a historic perspective, he said that the interaction between the Islamic world and Europe was marked early in history by important events such as the Crusades, the Arab invasion of Spain and the Ottoman conquest of Eastern Europe.

The Arabs and the Ottomans were the imperialists of the time while by the 19th century that law was reversed, with the Euro-

pean powers becoming the imperialists who colonised the Muslim states of North Africa and the Middle East. In the past 150 years, he said, the contacts between the Muslim world and Europe were marked by three phases:

The phase of imperial colonisation, which lasted up till the end of the Second World War; the phase of liberation when the Muslim states one after the other regained their freedom and independence; and the phase of large-scale emigration from the Muslim world to Europe.

Irrelevant to the political climate, each of the phases influenced Islamic art in a particular way. In the colonisation period, European powers and their scholars became involved with the study of the art of the colonised countries. Large-scale excavations in the Islamic world began in this period. It was also in

the same period that some of the largest western public collections of Islamic art were started at the British and Victoria and Albert museums in London, and the Louvre in Paris.

At the outbreak of the Second World War, Arab, Persian, Turkish and Indian scholars were ready to take over the responsibilities from their European colleagues.

In the second phase, said Fehervari, projects begun or undertaken before independence were continued with greater vigour and wider participation. The large Muslim presence now in Europe as a result of the postwar immigration "presents new duties and new responsibilities to the host countries," said the Hungarian-born professor, who leads the Islamic art studies at the university.

"The first task is to provide facilities for religious teaching for the children of these families and also to offer places of communal prayer," he said. "Around Britain, a number of new mosques are erected almost every year in various parts of the country. Similar centres already exist in France, Germany and Austria, and another is planned in Rome." The first Islamic centre behind the former Iron Curtain will be built shortly in Budapest, said the Hungarian-born academic.

In Britain, the new Islamic Chair at the London University will play a significant role while other centres of the study of Islamic art are at work in Oxford and Edinburgh.

Professor John Carswell of Sotchiy's said that the growth of the appreciation of Islamic art was well reflected by market trends. In answer to a question, he said that in addition to the traditional arts the Islamic contemporary arts were also winning new friends. Although the contemporary Islamic art did not enjoy a market as great as western contemporary art, he said, it will go under the hammer "sooner than any of you expect."

The one-day seminar was interspersed with a lively debate between the panellists and a packed hall of audience. A London-based Lebanese collector, Makram Irani, announced that he would offer his gallery free to Islamic exhibitions as a way of promoting it. Jalal Uddin Ahmed, director general of the Islamic Arts Foundation, UK, announced that an international conference devoted to Islamic arts in Eastern Europe and Central Asia would be held next year in Budapest.

The seminar panellists featured other international scholars and experts, including Dr Esin Yarar, a Turkish art historian, Dr Nasser Khalili, benefactor to the SOAS Chair, William Robinson of Christie's and Dale Eger, a London-based international art consultant.

The Centre for Near East, Asia and Africa Research has, meanwhile, announced plans for a major one-day seminar in London later this year that will be devoted to the contemporary scene in the Islamic world.

# Jerash South Gate stands again

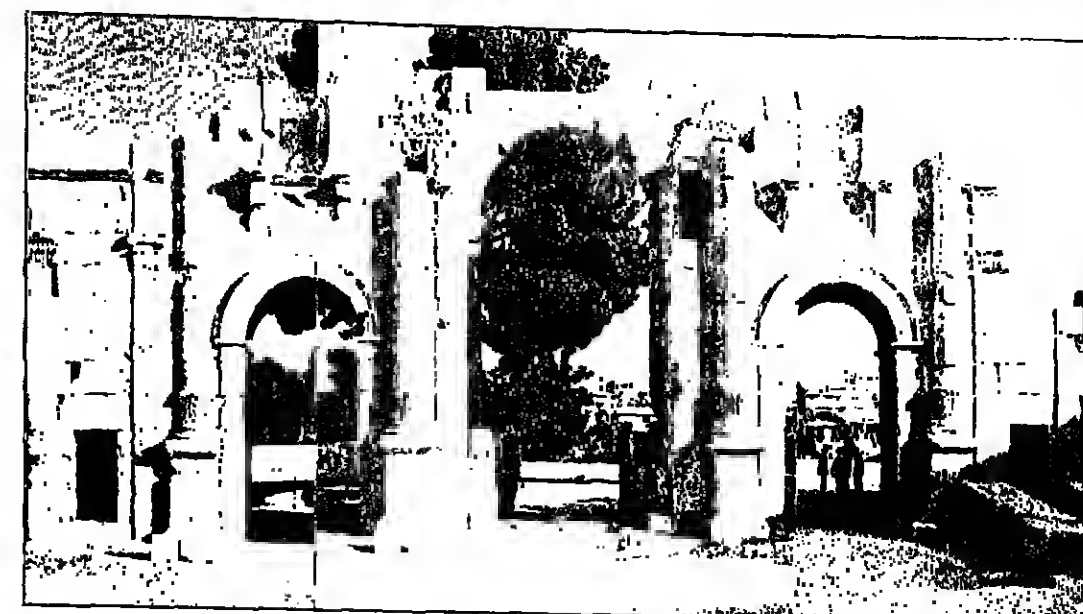
By Charlotte Hale  
Star Staff Writer

THE NEWLY reconstructed South Gate at Jerash stands proudly welcoming the attendees of this year's Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts. To festival-goers, the gate is perhaps just another archaeological monument among hundreds of similar structures in Jordan. However, this new gate symbolizes eight years of intense work by the French Institute for the Archaeology of the Near East (IFAO), in co-operation with the Department of Antiquities.

The French team first arrived at Jerash in 1982. It was the last of six international teams who descended upon the site to participate in major excavations and reconstruction of this ancient Roman city.

Financially, technically, and scientifically, Jerash was a good place to work in the early 1980s, says Jacques Seigne, director of the IFAO and head of the South Gate project.

Seigne explains that the country's strong economy in 1982 allowed the Department of Antiquities to finance this major undertaking, as well as provide equipment and pay workers for the project. It was a deal the French could not refuse, especially given the challenging op-



The newly reconstructed gate of Jerash

portunity to study and reconstruct the historic monument "built in 129 AD for the Roman Emperor Hadrian", Seigne notes.

The task began with a careful study of the excavated stones. A detailed drawing, usually displaying six faces, was completed on every stone discovered in the excavation. As more stones were discovered, drawings of groups of the stones which fit together were completed.

"It's like a puzzle," notes Seigne. "Each stone must be

placed in a very precise position because no two stones are of the same dimension. Some stones weigh five kilograms, others weigh as much as one ton."

A careful map revealing the location of each stone discovered was also necessary in helping the team determine where the stones might be placed in the final reconstruction. For instance, a stone discovered near the east side of the gate would most likely belong in the east area of the structure.

The French team also studied photographs and the fieldbook kept during the very first excavation of the gate in the 1930s by an American team from Yale University.

Though finding stones was often difficult, the team successfully recovered 75 per cent of the original stones — a sufficient amount to make reconstruction possible.

Under the guidance of architect Christophe Wagner, the drawings helped to create a final design of the entire structure on paper, though Seigne believes that the monument is "probably six or seven metres higher than the final design." This design enabled the team to determine missing stones and helped to form the models for stones that had to be re-created by stonemasons as the reconstruction began in March 1988.

Throughout the project, one team worked at the east end of the gate while a second one worked at the west end. Seigne explains that this occasionally created minor problems with each team placing stones in different directions.

Finding the capitals to the South Gate was a bit more difficult. Some of the capitals were discovered around the Roman Theatre in Amman where they had been taken to use in the reconstruction of that monument. The capitals did not, however, fit with the reconstruction of the Amman theatre, and were, with the help of the Department of Antiquities, brought back home to Jerash.

Unfortunately, the team was unable to locate all of the capitals for the South Gate. Some seem to have strangely disappeared, perhaps after the American excavations and in the original transfer of the capitals to Amman.

The position of the capitals also represents a budget-cutting move. A few of the capitals appearing on the outside face of the gate actually belong on the inside face. The decision to move the capitals to a position unrepresentative of their original placement helped to save money because new capitals did not have to be created by the stonemasons.

Technically, the move was considered acceptable because the design of the capitals which appeared on the inside face were exactly the same as those on the outside.

A bit of modern technology also had to be employed to support the new reconstruction, much to the dismay of the French team. An iron and concrete belt had to be added to help support the structure, due to the heavy weight of the arches.

The Department of Antiquities, however, seems to be overjoyed by the work of the French team on the South Gate project.

"We are very happy. They've done an excellent job," said Fakhri Qudaih, assistant director of the department, who also said there were "absolutely no problems" during the project.

When speaking of challenges faced during the study and reconstruction of the gate, the French seem to dwell on technical problems such as finding stones and building the scaffolding.

Seigne especially emphasised the difficulty in finding young architects to help reconstruct historic monuments.

"Very few people are interested in monumental architecture," Seigne explains. "Young architects are instead attracted to private companies where they can make more money constructing new buildings."

The French team and the Department of Antiquities will continue their co-operation in future projects such as the excavation and study of the Temple of Zeus in Jerash, the Citadel in Amman, and the Greek and Latin inscriptions discovered throughout Jordan.

# Famous British pianist to perform at Jerash

By Ceri Lloyd Jones  
Special to The Star

JOHN BRIGGS, the well-known British artist whose 1989 concert in Petra was the first cultural event in the rose red city's modern history, will be back in the country in September for an open-air recital at Jerash.

The event, which will be arranged in co-operation with International Traders and the Marjoun Hotel, is already being advertised in the United Kingdom, and is expected to attract large numbers of tourists.

What keeps luring Briggs to the country is an "ongoing love affair" that grew out of a holiday that he and his travel agent wife spent in Jordan in 1989.

On the plane back home to Britain the idea of putting on a concert in the amphitheatre of Amman or Jerash came to Yorkshire-born artist who made his debut in 1987. But whom should he contact? Only half joking, he told his secretary, "write a letter to the King (we might as well start at the top, because we don't know anyone else!)"

Soon after, Briggs received a positive response from the Ministry of Tourism — why not a recital in the ancient city of Petra? This, he realised with awe, was to be the first cultural event on record in Petra for some 2000 years.

The grand idea was not without its practical problems. A 50-metre grand piano, which



John Briggs

had endured sub-zero degree temperatures on his Royal Jordanian flight and searing heat on its way to Petra, had also to be transported through the narrow "Siq" which leads into the ancient city on a "battered old truck."

Careful handling saw that the piano reached the theatre in perfect condition for the concert. He found the acoustics "staggering; the finest sound just floated up." "And, in short, it brings a lump to my throat just to remember it," says Briggs.

The Petra concert was televised as the first in a series called "History in the Making" — performances given in some of the world's most exotic venues. At the end of May Mr. Briggs presented a tape of this special programme to Jordan television.

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## Our Say...

### Water challenge

FOR THE Past few weeks Jordanians have been facing an acute shortage of drinking and irrigation water. And this is not unusual. Ammanites have been accustomed to water rationing programmes during the summer months for the last two decades or so. What is unusual about this summer's crisis is that with the advent of thousands of expatriates and Arab visitors, which doubles the average water consumption, and the last three dry winters, water shortage has become the most critical issue the nation is facing.

In some neighbourhoods in east and south Amman tap water has not been pumped to thousands of homes and buildings for over three weeks. The water rationing schedule is not being observed by the authority which announced it and in some areas of Amman, a city of over one million inhabitants, drinking water is a rare commodity.

While the Water Authority is trying to meet the demand for water tankers, independent water merchants have found a booming and lucrative business. A 12-cubic-metre load is selling for JD 25 while the authority asks for JD six for the same quantity of water—when it can provide it. Some merchants are making up to JD 1000 daily just from selling water pumped out from private wells around Amman.

On the other hand, the water crisis has dealt considerable damage to Jordanian farmers who were hoping for profitable crops this summer. Now Jordan Valley farmers say they have been ordered by the government not to irrigate their summer crops. With the present heat wave their losses are almost assured. And if summer crops fail, a surge in the prices of fruits and vegetables is sure to occur and Jordan's ambitious agricultural export policy may receive a painful blow.

Overpumping from existing wells will almost certainly exhaust most of them within a short period of time. This means that current aquifers will dry up within a few years, thus bringing the water shortage problem into the forefront of the country's problems.

Coupled with all this are the regional competitions for scarce water resources. We are reminded of the conflict over water sharing rights of the Euphrates between Syria and Iraq on one side and Turkey on the other, and the acute water shortage in the West Bank because of Israel's occupation policies and its continued diversion of the waters of the Jordan and Yarmouk rivers which directly affects Jordan.

Politicians and experts now talk about wars over water as becoming the probable end-result of water scarcity in the Middle East. Israel has already executed plans to literally steal the waters of Litani river in South Lebanon and there are plans to confiscate water from other tributaries.

This strategic issue should become a priority of the Jordanian government. No country can afford to waste the most precious source of its life and existence. Our factories, schools, hospitals, farms and other vital facilities will come to a complete stop if water shortages reach a critical stage. We are witnessing a phenomenon which now occurs during the summer, but it could easily become the norm which characterises our life both in cities and in the countryside all through the year.

Efforts across the country must be unleashed to study the present crisis and propose solutions to it. According to officials, Jordan is floating over a sea of brackish water of various degrees of salinity. With modern technology such water can be desalinated and used in industry, irrigation of special crops and other areas, thus saving thousands of tons of drinkable water which we waste each year.

More efficient water catchment barriers and desert dams will have to be constructed to pool every bit of precious water this country gets during the rainy season. Upgrading and restoring old water networks in cities is now a priority which should be implemented at all costs, while research centres in our universities and other institutes must be given the funds and incentives to conduct experiments in using solar power to desalinate sea and brackish water for irrigation purposes.

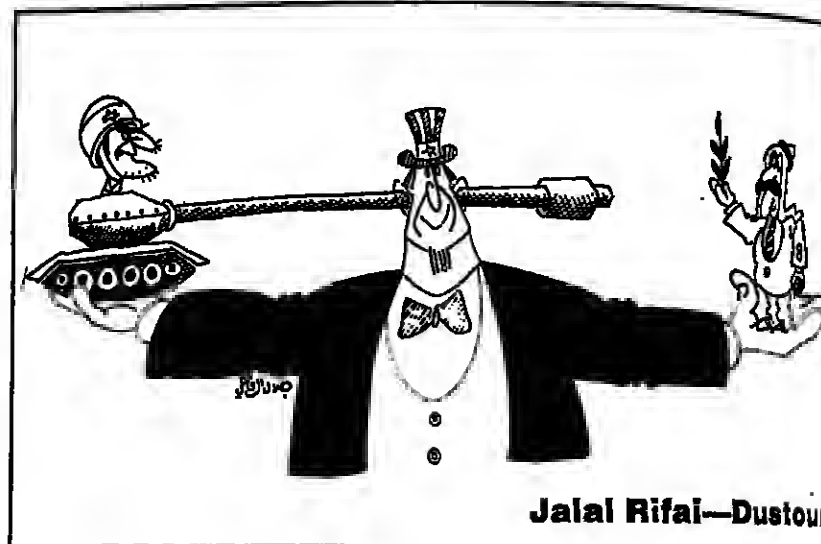
We should start now to work on this challenge and we should ask boldly for international help and expertise. Water is the source and preserver of life. Jordan is at the threshold of losing that source.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

With the writer's full name and address should be sent to P.O. Box 9313, Amman. The paper reserves the right to edit letters for reasons of clarity or space.



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Jalal Rifai—Dustour

## US Aid is ruining Israel

By Andrea Barron

MATTI PELED, a retired Israeli major general who teaches Arabic literature at the University of Tel Aviv, shocked his country back in 1977 when he dared to meet with officials from the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Now Peled, who recently completed a year as a visiting scholar in Arabic at Harvard University, has done something just as controversial. He is calling for a drastic reduction in US aid to Israel, claiming too much aid is ruining his country.

The United States currently provides over \$3 billion a year in aid to Israel—1.8 billion for military aid, \$1.2 billion in economic support funds, and additional funding for refugee resettlement and some other programmes. Economic aid was converted from loans to outright grants in 1981, while military assistance has been provided in grant form since 1985. While virtually all other recipients of US aid must spend the money in the United States, Israel is permitted to spend \$300 million dollars of its US military assistance in Israel.

### An Expensive Gift

Peled, who represented the leftist Progressive List for Peace Party in the Israeli Knesset from 1984 to 1988, says Israel has a defence budget of around \$6 billion. One third of this money comes from the United States and the rest from the Israeli taxpayer. "Israel has to spend two dollars of its own money for every dollar it gets from America. We have to lay out enormous sums of money to absorb all the weaponry we buy from America. If we purchase an F-16 jet, for example, we have to buy the spare parts and ammunition ourselves train the pilots and find a place to store the jet plane."

"The requirement that US aid be spent in America is killing Israel economically. We'd be better off accepting one billion dollars from the US—even if it came in loans instead of grants—and using the money in Israel. Right now we're buying lots of military hardware we don't need just because the money is there. And all this money isn't making us any more secure."

Peled argues that the nearly \$2 billion in US military aid is giving Israel a false sense of security. "The aid is fueling the arms race in the Middle East and subsidising American arms manufacturers. But it isn't bringing us any closer to peace." Real peace, says 66-year-old Peled, will come only when Israel agrees to negotiate with the PLO and withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Moreover, Peled asserts, the inflated military budget has turned the Israel De-

fence Forces into a political player. David Ben Gurion (Israel's first prime minister) always insisted that the army should never become a political factor but just be a part of society. The army today is a separate caste in Israeli society. This has disrupted the very delicate balance in a democratic society.

Peled is convinced that Syria, often regarded as Israel's most dangerous enemy, would not attack if the Jewish state reduced its defence budget. "Both the Syrian and Israeli economies are bleeding," he says. "If Israel reduced its military budget, Syria would immediately follow. This is what's happened with the US and the Soviet Union. When one side starts cutting, the other does the same."

### Israel's best-kept secret

The United States provides Economic Support Funds (ESF) to Israel and some other allies, such as Turkey and El Salvador, to help them pay the interest on their debts to the US. But Peled believes Israel is using about \$500 million in ESF funds to finance Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza. "We can find out for sure," he says. "The amount of money being invested for the annexationist policy is the best-kept secret in Israel. We do know that in spite of all the American aid, there hasn't been any growth in the Israeli economy for 15 years!"

Peled does not advocate any cuts in US economic aid to Israel. Instead he wants the money invested in specific types of economic activities such as projects in the poorer development towns. The unemployment rate in these development towns, where many Jewish immigrants of North African origin settled in the 1950s, has recently climbed to almost 20 per cent. This compares to Israel's national unemployment rate of close to 10 per cent.

Does Peled think the US should cut aid to Israel if it continues its harsh policies towards the Palestinians and refuses to talk to the PLO? "No," he says, but he says that President Bush encourage Israel to begin a dialogue with the PLO by asking the UN secretary general to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East which includes the PLO. "Israel would have to attend because it could not afford to stay away."

But the Israeli general, who still considers himself a Zionist, says the US should not use aid to force a change in Israeli policies. "Some people want to cut aid to Israel to punish it. I want to cut aid to save it. If the American Congress really wants to help Israel, they'd give us less military aid and let us use the money the way we want, in our own country."

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## Opinion

# Palestinian armed struggle: What is a legitimate strategy?

By Dr. As'ad Abdul Rahman

THE LAST Palestinian seaborne operation against Israel has caused endless political reverberations in all of the local Palestinian, Arab and international arenas. As for its repercussions on Palestinians the operation has triggered a series of political, organisational and military ripples that are expected to linger on for a long time. Only the waves of a bigger and more successful operation, and/or the waves of an all-out war, or a drastic breakthrough in the peaceful process might cover these ripples and lead to the recession of these repercussions.

### Shortcomings uncovered

From a totally different perspective, and notwithstanding the controversial and sometimes conflicting views regarding this operation, the aborted Palestinian venture has uncovered a series of shortcomings at different levels in different parties.

For one thing, and according to several Israeli political and/or mass media sources, Israel's military and security systems were to be less "perfect" than they were originally thought to be.

The already well-known hypocritical and double-standard policies of most Western—particularly American—dealings with Arabs have been, once more, firmly established. In addition, the operation has unveiled serious weaknesses in Arab and Palestinian policies and politics. Whether intended or not, the Palestinian seaborne attack has raised an assortment of doctrinal, political, organisational and military polemics among all parties concerned. What is needed now is a respite for analysis and contemplation. In this context, two sets of questions need to be asked:

### Mixed responses

First, a clear definition of Palestinian armed struggle and its main characteristics is still lacking. While Western circles condemned the operation and considered it an act of "terrorism" (as with all similar operations), Arab and particularly Palestinian reactions hovered between enthusiasm, approbation and total reprobation.

Failure of the operation to inflict high casualties among the Israelis caused widespread frustration and sorrow among the adherents of armed struggle, while their opponents took advantage of what they called "the ill-planning and foolhardiness" of the operation as a pretext for their condemnation of the attack. Others still sighed with relief at the "failure" of the attack, believing that a "successful" operation of this magnitude with all the casualties it could have incurred, especially if among civilians, was likely to undermine all the gains of the Palestinian Intifada.

So, while a quite substantial segment of the Arab and Palestinian public considered the venture to be a legitimate act of armed struggle, others, taking into consideration its ill-timing and nature, considered it to be an adventure whose political risks had not been carefully calculated. The uproar caused by this operation compels the Palestinians (and other Arabs) to try and draw a clear-cut demarcation line

between what is to be considered "legitimate acts" of armed struggle, and what is to be labelled as "terrorism."

### What is legitimate?

Now, is geographical proximity a crucial issue in this context? In other words, can we consider the Palestinian assumptions that all operations execut-

and to achieve self-determination." To the advocates of this view, trading along the path of "peaceful settlement" does not have to negate or cancel the old-new efforts in the arena of armed struggle, for the latter can be—as proven by other liberation movements—the "midwife" of ultimate peace. Finally, some Palestinian organisations speak of selective operations

day) all shared, for different reasons and in varying degrees, basic reservations as to the value of Palestinian commando activity. At best, some Arab countries—like Syria—who are endeavoring to reach 'strategic parity' with Israel, tacitly condone some selected commando operations as long as they are carried out from other borders and do not invite Israeli retaliatory strikes!!

Furthermore, some Arabs believe that "the age of Sada" in Egypt has dealt a deadly blow to all hopes of a military confrontation with Israel. While some Arab countries still believe that the military confrontation with Israel is inevitable, they, nevertheless, believe that it will occur between regular armies using heavy weapons, and that commandos will have no role to play in such wars.

Other Arabs also believe that commando operations could give Israel the pretext to strike first while Arabs are still militarily ill-prepared. Furthermore, some feel that any such operations might be used by Israel to empty the occupied territories of their inhabitants by transferring substantial segments of the population to neighbouring countries.

### Clarity needed

Whether we are having a military or a political confrontation with Israel, the role of commando operations should be clearly defined. Notwithstanding the sound arguments that no proper military build-up can be established away from the heat of actual battle and/or live manoeuvres, some believe that every provocation that might provide Israel with a pretext to destroy the Arabs' fast growing military build-up should be carefully avoided.

The controversy here is not merely theoretical. As far as the first set of questions posed, any Arab or Palestinian leadership battling Israel politically for the hearts and minds of world public opinion will be confronted with the parochial and one-sided understanding of armed struggle by the West.

The absence of common criteria among Arabs as far as armed struggle is concerned has further blurred both Western and Arab visions. To Arabs, and particularly in the absence of just peace, armed struggle is not merely a duty or even a necessity; it is a destiny. On the other hand, the concept of armed struggle seems to be a highly controversial issue that concerns not only those who are politically involved, but also those Arabs who are preoccupied with enhancing their military capabilities and are eager not to give Israel any pretext to launch a destructive pre-emptive strike.

The controversy is so acute that it threatens to develop into a serious inter-Palestinian and inter-Arab rift. This is why the last seaborne operation carried out by elements of the "Palestine Liberation Front" has undoubtedly revealed the loopholes in Arab and Palestinian strategies. This drawback is serious enough to warrant a meeting of the Palestinian Central Council in order to devise a clearer strategy for the whole struggle.



"...while a quite substantial segment of the Arab and Palestinian public considered the venture to be a legitimate act of armed struggle, others, taking into consideration its ill-timing and nature, considered it to be an adventure whose political risks had not been carefully calculated."

### Hostile attitude

On the other hand, the second point of view maintains that the logic of armed struggle, especially after the Palestinian Intifada, has finally run its course, and has hence, nullified all arguments and pretexts that were used to justify that armed activity. The supporters of this view believe that the age of Palestinian military activity (commando operations) is over because times have changed.

Rhetoric aside, some Arab officials have doubted the achievements obtained by commando operations, even accusing them of hurting Palestinian and Arab interests. They even believe that commando activities in the years 1965-67 caused the total loss of Palestine and parts of Syria and Egypt. In addition, they feel that the 1982 invasion of Lebanon was a direct result of Palestinian commando activity during the period 1970-1982.

This hostile attitude towards Palestinian commando activity was a common denominator among the majority of Arab regimes. The Arab Unified Command (prior to 1967), Egypt's Nasser (before the June 67 War), Lebanon and Jordan (probably all this

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# The costs of Arab-Israeli attrition

By Masood Haider  
Special to The Star

NEW YORK — The decision of the George Bush administration to suspend talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is more than a sudden blow to the so-called Middle East peace process, which began under the Shamir initiative before coming under the umbrella of the Baker plan. Now more than ever the US position underscores the pervasive power of the pro-Israel lobby in Capitol Hill and the US administration.

Western political analysts who in the past criticised Israel for reneging on the peace plan under pressure from its extreme right-wing groups, felt that what was needed to salvage the peace process was a US signal to the PLO to condemn or distance itself from the attempted attack last June on Israeli beaches.

However, the final outcome has again illustrated that the PLO and the Arabs are no match for the pro-Israel lobby, although they were seen to have accommodated every demand made by the Israelis.

When a "deranged" Israeli soldier killed in May seven Palestinian labourers, many Arab activists who were seeking sanctions against the Israeli government for settling Jewish emigrants in the occupied territories, saw an opportunity to further their cause through the outrage the tragedy provoked.

Arab delegates at the United Nations, for example, became active and paved the way for the

PLO chairman to address the United Nations Security Council.

However, the Bush administration which was under pressure in grant Yasser Arafat a visa to address the world body relented to the pro-Israel lobby in Congress which strongly objected to Arafat's New York visit.

In response US Secretary of State James Baker came up with a plan to extricate the United States from a potentially embarrassing situation. Baker, through his United Nations representative Thomas Pickering hinted that the United States would not object to moving the Security Council meeting to Geneva, where Mr Arafat would be free to attend it. He also alluded that the United States would support any Security Council resolution which called for a UN observer mission to be sent to the occupied territories.

The secretary of state even went on television to give assurances of the United States' desire to see such a mission take place. The Arabs were gleeful and spoke of changing attitudes

of the US administration towards the Middle East crisis.

Sceptics warned the Arabs of making too much of the US position and words. And then the in-

volvement in the murder of Muslim cleric Maulvi Farooq.

Unhappy Arab delegates talked about betrayal by the United States accusing the coun-

try of reneging on its promises. The United States then told them that when the Security Council moves to New York "they may consider another such resolution" but with different wording.

Once again heartened by the US, Arab League Ambassador Clovis Maksoud was once again optimistic that such a resolution would come to pass.

When the resolution surfaced in its new form, however, the US vetoed it again.

With a "Machiavellian" plan of action, the United States managed to scuttle all Arab moves seeking sanctions against Israel and dash all hopes of a UN observer mission visiting the occupied territories. The embarrassment of denying a visa to Arafat was also avoided.

However, the attempted sea-borne attack on Israeli beaches which was designed to deliver a jolt to Israel and the United States on the eve of the Baghdad summit, has backfired.

With the aborted attack the whole peace process has received a major setback and left the Arabs virtually helpless, giving the pro-Israel lobby in the United States renewed strength. This is particularly discouraging since the Arabs already have lost important allies in the Soviet Union and the East Bloc.

More importantly, the tempo for a US-led initiative may also have been lost indefinitely. As one political analyst observed, US presidential initiatives especially those likely to involve a confrontation with the pro-Israel lobby, come no more frequently than once every four years. This one fizzled out quickly, with little or no counteraction by the Arabs, and the tide has turned irrevocably against the Palestinian side in the dispute.

However, some of the blame must lie with the Arabs and Palestinians themselves. For instance the leaders at the recent Baghdad summit apparently decided to write a letter to US President George Bush and Soviet President Gorbachev when the latter was still visiting the United States. But then the Arab and Palestinian leaders could not agree on the text of the letter and the plan had to be shelved. This failure to achieve concerted action even at a minor level contrasts sharply with the effective onslaught mounted against their cause by the supporters of Israel in the United States, in the UN and elsewhere — Academic File

Masood Haider is the North America Correspondent for Academic File, based in New York.



Sea raid: A blow to the peace process?

evitable happened in Geneva. While 14 members voted for a Security Council mandated UN observer mission to visit the occupied territories, the United States vetoed the resolution under pressure from Israel. The Israeli ambassador even went on record as saying the Arabs were using the massacre incident to further their plans to undermine the security of Israel, by calling the Security Council meeting in Geneva, while no such meeting was called to discuss "Kashmir where the Indian army has killed hundreds of Kashmiris and is in-

## Hashish — The 'Petroleum' of Lebanon?

By Mounir B Abboud  
Special to The Star

HASHISH FARMERS in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley once considered their centuries-old crop a "tradition." They often offered guests a wad of the drug's rich brown paste instead of tea or coffee. Although this practise might be considered expensive hospitality in modern terms, it reflects the ease with which hash growing has fit into Bekaa society.

Now, after the 15-year civil war and subsequent conditions of lawlessness, a "smugglers state" is beginning to emerge in Lebanon, according to a leading political figure in the country.

Hashish was a bumper crop this year for its growers in the Bekaa in eastern Lebanon and other parts of the country. Press reports quoting informed officials have described this season as Lebanon's best since 1980.

Blooming hash plants have grown over two and half metres tall — thanks to improved irrigation systems and methods of cultivation. A dunum (one quarter of an acre) yields an average of 1,000 kilograms, and growers are guaranteed \$1500 to \$3,000 per dunum. By conservative estimates, Lebanon may be producing as much as 950,000 kilograms of the drug each year.

As the lucrative trade has progressed, the drug has earned the cynical nickname of the 'petro-

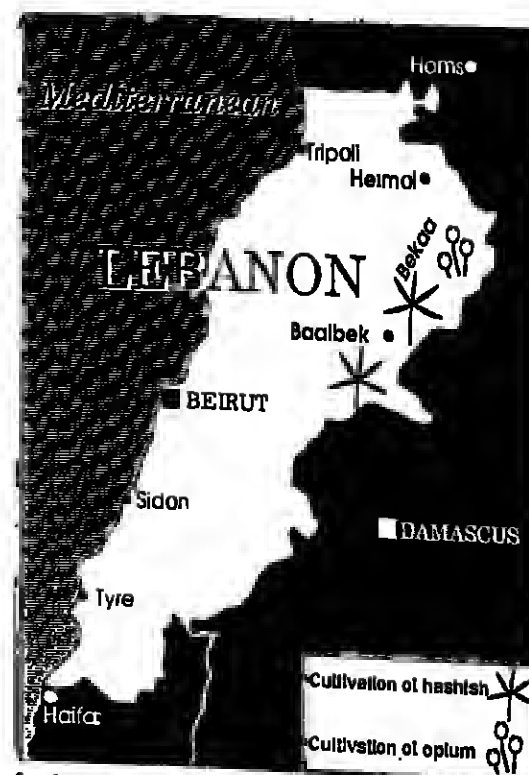
leum of Lebanon,' bringing in an estimated \$250 million in revenue.

The Baalbek-Hermal region in East Lebanon has become the biggest source of hashish export to Europe and the United States, according to Lebanese security sources.

Smuggling networks exposed recently in France, Greece and other European countries as well as Cyprus were reported to be having direct dealings with hashish planters in Lebanon. The farmers, in the absence of full state authority, have set up their own airport and ports on the Mediterranean, which are protected by gunmen, and have adopted a kind of 'mafia' system in the assignment of duties and delegation of power.

The elaborate expansion of the criminals' power has made the growers fearless. Fields sown with the hashish plant extend for miles and the growers openly show pride in their 'achievements.' Thousands of acres have been put under cultivation in the Bekaa Valley alone, an area difficult to administer before the conflict which is now virtually lawless.

The rise of the Bekaa as a haven for the drug dealers is a sequel to the emergence of illegal ports run by the various Christian and Muslim militias along the Lebanese coast. The ports are used to 'import' weapons, alcoholic drinks, cigarettes,



foods and other merchandise and to 'export' local merchandise, including hashish.

With the rise in cultivation, the number of processing centres has also increased. 'Experts' are brought in from areas where drug controls have become stringent or effective, such as Turkey. People are no longer bashful of refining and marketing the product in broad daylight. Several foreign drug dealers are said to be residing in Lebanon and

their transactions are made in American dollars.

While the principal markets for the drug are Europe, the United States and Egypt, consumption in Lebanon itself has also gone up. Normally, the Lebanese government adopted a policy of persuasion rather than coercion in its drive to discourage cultivation. Sunflowers were brought for farmers at incentive prices, not because

this particular crop was needed, but because it served as a substitute to the hashish plants. However the sunflower incentive did very little to curb the practice. Nor were the efforts of the World Health Organisation effective in dealing with the problem in Lebanon. Funding from WHO ceased, and the sunflower incentive waned only to make room for more widespread cultivation of hashish. The attempt by the Lebanese Army in

May 1987 to destroy about 200 acres of hashish growing land ended in failure mainly because of pressure from the militias and the officials who had an interest in the business.

The hashish growers, technically, are masters of the entire process participating in all phases of production — from sowing the seed to trafficking.

But the growers' new prosperity in a country at risk of dismemberment may be short-lived. International law enforcement organisations such as Interpol are alarmed over the increase in hashish plantations in Lebanon and international consultations have focused on curbing the threat posed by the hashish traffic. The Lebanese government is also reported to be contemplating new measures although their effectiveness will remain moot.

The measures are expected to include the creation of a special drug combat squad and more severe penalties for those convicted of drug smuggling or illicit dealing in drugs. Most informed analysts, however, doubt whether these measures will be effective so long as the civil war continues.

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● JERASH — French Ambassador Denis Bauchard and the Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Abdel Karim Kabariti cut a ceremonial ribbon on June 28th, formally opening the newly reconstructed South Gate at Jerash.

Prior to the official ribbon-cutting, the Director of the French Institute of Archaeology for the Near East Jack Seigne explained the intricate process of studying and restoring the ceremonial gate which dates back 129 AD.

Both the ambassador and minister agreed in their speeches to a crowd of more than 100 that the South Gate was an excellent representation of the friendly relations between Jordan and France. They also expressed hope that the relationship between the French archaeological group and the Department of Antiquities, which worked jointly on the project, will continue in the future.



● The Department of Antiquities and the Friends of Archaeology recently distributed the second edition of their new joint publication: "Ancient Jordan." The 10-page newsletter contains 18 brief news stories, some with accompanying illustrations or photographs, highlighting recent archaeological discoveries in Jordan.

This issue discusses the continuing excavation of an Assyrian-Babylonian courtyard by a West German team and their opening of a new area, tentatively called the "temple," close to the palace at the site of el-Balu' in the Ard el-Karak, about 10 kilometres northeast of el-Qasr. There are also articles on continuing excavations of Stone Age architecture at Wadi Shu'eib, a Roman legionary fortresses near

Karak, and an ancient Egyptian outpost in the Jordan Valley.

The tri-annual newsletter also lists ongoing fieldwork, new publications and exhibitions of interest to Jordanian archaeological buffs. For more information, contact Dr Ghazi Bishah, director of the Department of Antiquities, or Rami G. Khouri, president, Friends of Archaeology.

● The Jordanian Alumni Society—Graduates of US Universities and Institutes, which was formed in the end of 1988, held an inaugural celebration on 20 June at the Plaza Hotel. The executive committee of the society includes Mr Marwan Al Qasem, president, Dr Abdallah Nsour, vice president, Dr Hashem Al Moghrabi, secretary general, and Mr Nasr Nasr, treasurer.

Other founding members include Mr Zaid Rifal, Mr Taber Al Masri, Dr Rajal Mouasher, Dr Fayer Tarawneh, Dr Kamel Al-Jouli, Dr Adnan Badran, Dr Alal Eldeen Toukan, Dr Aref Zalatimo, Dr Fawzi Gharybeh, Dr Marwan Kamal, Dr Hashem Al Sabbagh,

Dr Inssam Abu Ghuzala, Dr Ali Abu Rugheib and Dr Ziyad Sallali.

Attending the inaugural party were Sharif Zaid Bin Shaker, Dr Mohammed Said Nabulsi, Dr Mohammed Hamdan, Dr Said Al Tal, Dr Mazen Arriouli, Mr Khuldoun Abu Hassun, Dr Ali Attikuh, Mr Saif Al Sharif, Dr Faisal Kmal, Dr Fawaz Toukan, Mr Saleh Kilani and Dr Mahmoud Qdiah.

● THE 32nd world congress of the International Advertising Association (IAA) ended in Hamburg, West Germany, on 13 June after three days of intensive debate on the recent changes in the world of communications and advertising.

The conference, which was held under the patronage of Mr Helmut Schmidt, ex-chancellor of West Germany, and attended by over 1000 personalities representing various international media and advertising organisations,



### British Citizens: Right to vote

The representation of the People Act of 1989 has made important changes in who can vote in UK Parliamentary and European Parliamentary Elections.

1. Even if you left the UK as long ago as October 1970 you can still vote.
2. People who left the UK before they were old enough to be included on the Electoral Register may register as overseas electors.
3. You need no longer declare an intention to return to the UK. In order to qualify you need to fill in an application form by \*10 October 1990.

To get a form and explanatory leaflet contact the Consular Section, British Embassy, P.O. Box 87, Abdoun.  
\*15 September 1990 in Northern Ireland.

## Scrapbook

### A Bird's eye view

Hi! I'm a total unknown who thinks she is a writer. Whether I can write or not is something you must judge for yourself, but I do know that I am very good at stirring a raucous.

The last time I conned the editor of the "other English paper" into printing my articles, I was given the axe only a few weeks later. I can't help it if I call a spade "a bloody shovel!"

I just hope that you readers take my articles as unseriously as they are meant to be. What I try to do (the operative work is TRY) is pick out a few things, little things, that you may see in your daily life but you do not notice.

Television commentators are supposed to be impartial, especially the sports commentators. Apparently this isn't true when you are talking about Brazil in the World Cup.

Seriously now... Did you see and hear the commentator on JTV the night Brazil lost to Argentina? I don't mean the man doing the play by play thing. I mean the one who talks his way through half-time, and give us his valuable opinion after the game.

The man was close to tears. He sounded like he had just lost his best friend. And his mate sitting across the desk from him says "But this is football, anything can happen." Now those are words of wisdom that I will hold on to for a long time.

So Brazil was beaten... so what? Whatever happened to "It is not whether you win or lose, it is how you play the game"? I guess that's only for school boys!

Here's something that Parliament can have a field day with. Just about anybody coming to Jordan will be given an entry visa upon arrival. Why then, when a Jordanian wants to go anywhere (with the new prices for airline tickets and the JD 25 airport tax, you might think "who wants to go anywhere anyway?") a visa is definitely required. And in certain cases involving particular countries a visa is almost impossible to obtain?

I will not even begin to discuss visas that say they are only "an application for entry." So you apply for a visa, get one, drive or fly for many hours and then have the immigration officer tell you that you cannot get in the country!

I leave you with this piece of trivia: the chemical used to determine blood groups is extracted from the snail's eggs.

Until next time... Be good!

Magda Hamzeli

tions, also elect Mr Mustapha Assad as senior Vice-President and world President elect of IAA.

Mr Assad founded Public Graphics advertising agency in 1973 is presently its President and Chief Executive Officer. He was also the former president of the Lebanese IAA chapter and Vice President/Area Director for the Middle East and Africa.

● To celebrate its second anniversary Safeway International stores held on Friday 29 June a celebration which was attended by hundreds of people. The celebration included children's games, raffles and special events. On Sunday 8 July, lottery draw was conducted and 15 prizes were given to clients.

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THE STAR 13

THE STAR 15



## Summer outfits

European summer outfits have incorporated pure silks as in this summer ensemble (left) which was designed by Jurgen Weiss of Munich. A daytime outfit (right) is made of printed Swiss crepe de chine faconne from Abraham AG in Zurich.



## The winners of The Star's World Cup Contest

More than 200 participants in The Star's World Cup contest by Franz Beckenbauer qualified for the final draw which was conducted on Monday. The winners were as follows:

### Competition A

- ★ First Prize: One accurate miniature of Mercedes sports car was won by Walid Fawzi Shobaki, Irbid.
- ★ Second Prize: One accurate miniature of Mercedes sports car was won by Maha Kamal Al Alwi, Amman.
- ★ Third Prize: One accurate miniature of Mercedes sports car was won by Saad Al Saud, Amman.

### Competition B

- ★ First Prize: One original Adidas World Cup track suit was won by Walid Fawzi Shobaki, Irbid.
  - ★ Second Prize: One pair of the original Adidas football shoes "Etrusco Unico" was won by Ahmad Abu Fares, Amman.
  - ★ Third Prize: One original Adidas World Cup football jersey was won by Suhair Marrar, Amman.
  - ★ Fourth Prize: One original Adidas football "Etrusco Unico" was won by John Wright, Cairo.
- Congratulations to the winners and good luck next time to those who participated. Winners should call 648298-Amman, to set an appointment to receive their prizes.

### SECRETARY REQUIRED

A leading tourism company in Amman is in need of a secretary with a minimum of 3 years experience in office work (tel. ex, typing, filing) and with full command of the English language (Arabic language helpful but not essential). Interested applicants should write with CV details + one photo to:

The Manager, P.O. Box 1803, Amman.  
Office hours from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.  
daily except Friday.

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## The Germans did it!

The penalty scored by Andreas Brehme in the final match of the World Cup against Argentina, the defending champions, deservedly secured the cup for the Germans for the third time in the history of the competition.

The West Germans dominated most of the match but found it difficult to penetrate the rugged Argentine defence. The penalty was awarded when defender Roberto Sensi fouled striker Rudi Voeller in the penalty area with only six minutes remaining to match end.

West German coach Franz Beckenbauer became the first man to captain and coach a team to victory in the World Cup final. He captained West Germany to victory in 1974.

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## Agenda

### Films

● The American Centre presents "Treasure of the Sierra Madre" starring Humphrey Bogart and Walter Huston, Thursday 12 July and Sunday 15 July at 7:30 pm.

### Concerts

● The Gary Burton Quintet will perform in Jerash on Sunday 15 July and Monday 16 July at 9:30 pm.

### Lectures

● Rami Khouri will lecture on "Archaeology and the Economy of Jordan", on Thursday 12 July, 7:30 pm, at UKAS, the United Kingdom Alumni Society club.

● Jim Mason and Dr Khalifa Amr will lecture on "Nabataean Bowl Making" at the British Council on Monday 16 July at 6:00 pm.

## TRAVEL DESTINATIONS

By Taylor Michaels

If you'll be in Europe this summer, you'll want to know where to go, what to see and how much it will cost to do it. Below, a hot-off-the-presses listing of interesting activities and bargains:

★ In France: Buddy Bombard's famed balloon excursions over the Burgundy and Loire regions, formerly available only as one-week packages, are being offered this summer as one-hour introductory flights. The "Air Adventure" program also includes an informative pre-flight talk and a post-flight celebration, all at \$250 per person. Travel agents have details, or call 1-800-862-8337.

★ In England: "Leisure Break" packages are being offered at nearly 200 Trusthouse Forte Hotels throughout Great Britain. Starting at \$60 per person, the "Leisure Break" package is offered Thursday through Sunday if you stay two to four nights, or any time of the week for two to six-night stays. Accommodations include a room with a private bath or shower, full traditional breakfast each day, three-course table d'hôte dinner daily and service and VAT (value added tax) charges. Contact your travel agent or Trusthouse Forte Hotels at 1-800-CALL THF for more information.

★ In Finland: If you'll be in this Scandinavian neck of the woods, inquire about the deluxe motor-coach tour from Finland to Russia offered through the Russian Travel Bureau. The tour includes a roundtrip cruise from Helsinki to Stockholm as well. Russian Travel Bureau (RTB) is renowned for service and can confirm your arrangements and obtain visas for clients in as little as three weeks of departure, although more time is advisable. For a 32-page brochure, contact RTB at 225 East 44th St., New York City, N.Y. 10017 or call in New York (212) 986-1500; outside New York call toll-free at 1-800-847-1800.

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## Programmes on Jordan Television from 14 July to 20 July

### SATURDAY

8:30 - Joint Account (comedy).  
9:00 - Encounter: hosted by Rami Khouri.  
9:30 - Classical music.  
10:00 - News in English.  
10:20 - Feature film (Sharma and Beyond): An ironic comedy of manners that plots the misunderstandings and double motives out of which Stephen and Natasia develop a relationship — is it real love or not?

### SUNDAY

8:30 - Hey Dad: Debbie wants to work three nights a week to save money to buy a car because her friend also is getting a vehicle. Debbie's dad teaches her that jealousy does not pay.  
9:10 - Nuclear Age (Carter's New World): When President Carter finalised the SALT II treaty with the Russians, his administration was split into hawks and doves. However, the Russian invasion of Afghanistan and the Iranian revolution undermined Carter's dovish intentions.  
10:00 - News in English.  
10:20 - Hunter (Nightmare).

### MONDAY

8:30 - Perfect Strangers: Larry and Balki become reporters for "Chicago Chronicle" and attempt to conduct an interview with a famous football player lying injured in the hospital. Surprisingly enough, they manage to get the scoop.  
9:10 - Murder, She Wrote (If it's Thursday).  
10:00 - News in English.  
10:20 - Action in the North Atlantic: A German submarine sinks an American oil tanker. Captain Steven and John are saved. John gets married and re-joins Captain Steven who is given command of a military escort convoy ship.

### TUESDAY

8:30 - Golden Girls (A Piece of Cake): Two of our heroines prepare a surprise birthday party for Blanche and are hard hit by fond memories.  
9:10 - Heart of the High Country: Ceci, a young English girl, emigrates to New Zealand in the 1820s hopeful for a new life. However she is faced with rape, pregnancy, enforced marriage and a tragic accident.  
10:00 - News in English.  
10:20 - Paradise.  
11:10 - Police Squad (Ring of Fear): A gang of professional gamblers are running illegal boxing matches and they will kill to protect their business. The police resort to a secret investigation before they bust the gang.

### WEDNESDAY

8:30 - You Rang M'Lord (comedy).  
9:10 - My Best Friend is a Computer: This documentary



The Golden Girls, Tuesday at 8:30

discusses the benefits and disadvantages of the computer robot for children.  
10:00 - News in English.  
10:20 - Summer's Lease (Where the Water Goes): Molly feels that the mystery of everything happening is moved by an invisible hand. She tries hard to rationalise events, only to find even more mystery.

### THURSDAY

8:30 - A Different World: (comedy).  
9:10 - Dolphin Cove: An aboriginal tribe wants to sue Mike for the land where he conducts the dolphin research.  
10:00 - News in English.  
10:20 - Movie of the Week (They Drive By Night): A marvellous melodrama of truck-driving brothers battling crooked bosses.

### FRIDAY

8:30 - Did'a Comedy Show (Building a House).  
9:10 - Midnight Caller (The Reverend Sound Bite): A black gang beats up Nelson, a black student who lies to the police and claims a white cop committed the act. Jack looks into the case and sets the matter straight.  
10:00 - News in English.  
10:20 - Anything More Would be Greedy (Playing Games): Peter's scientific research is going well. Mark and businessman 'Toby' fail to convince him to come to America, so the Swiss authorities try their luck with him too. All the while Peter moves from one success to another.

### FRENCH PROGRAMME

### SATURDAY

5:45 - Champs Elysees: A variety programme.  
7:00 - Jettide le courant électrique: A documentary about the electrical current.

### SUNDAY

5:45 - Denver le dernier dîner: A cartoon for children.  
6:15 - Les Malinches: A documentary.  
6:40 - On c'est du cinema: A documentary.  
7:00 - News in French.  
7:15 - French varieties.

### MONDAY

6:10 - L'homme et la nature: a documentary about humid lands.  
7:00 - News in French.  
7:15 - The Weekly Sports Magazine.

### TUESDAY

5:50 - Fusion/11: A documentary.  
6:10 - Des chiffres et des lettres: A game show.  
6:30 - Tel pere tel fils: A comedy series.  
7:00 - News in French.  
7:15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: A local programme.

### WEDNESDAY

6:00 - L'ami maupassant (histoire vraie): A drama series.  
7:00 - News in French.  
7:15 - French varieties.

### THURSDAY

5:50 - Molleriesimo/12: A programme for children.  
6:10 - Des chiffres et des lettres.  
6:30 - La chance aux chansons: A variety programme.  
7:00 - News in French.  
7:15 - Sirocce (le magazine de l'évasion): A documentary.

### FRIDAY

5:20 - Nid d'espions: A French feature film.  
7:00 - News in French.  
7:15 - Les révolutions de l'intelligence: A documentary relating the development of human intelligence throughout the ages.

## ROGER EBERT: ON MOVIES

### "Robocop 2"

RATING:★★

"Robocop 2" is a bizarre mixture of violence and humor. Its a film with a split personality, giving us gruesome scenes and then moving on as if they didn't really mean anything.

This is a movie where one scene features a tycoon announcing plans to "take Detroit private," and another scene has Robocop snatching the brains of his enemy out of his artificial skull and pounding them into the pavement. The movie's technique is to alternate the laughs and the gore, so that right after the brains get smashed, there's a line of innumerate dialogue.

The very idea of Robocop is funny: there's a human tendency to be amused by anything that seems to be intelligent but is actually governed by laws of behaviour it doesn't understand. That's why we like plastic teeth that chatter when we wind them up. Robocop is this kind of creature — an incredibly expensive, complicated piece of machinery that stomps around Detroit making all the wrong decisions.

The story begins at a moment when Detroit is in even worse shape than it was at the end of the last movie. There's a citywide police strike in midst of pay cuts masterminded by the evil Omni Consumer Products conglomerate, a giant corporation that wants to replace cops with Robocops and take over Detroit in the process. OCP is run by the Old Man (Daniel O'Herry), a tycoon whose vision is to force the city into bankruptcy, take it over at a bargain price and strip it of its assets.

This plot doesn't really have much to do with the central confrontation in "Robocop 2," which is between Cain (Tom Noonan), the inventor of a popular new drug, and the forces of justice as represented by Robocop (Peter Weller).

Cain's sidekick is a violent, foul-mouthed young boy (Gabriel Damon), who looks about 12 years old but kills people without remorse, swears like Eddie Murphy, and eventually takes over the drug business. I hesitate to suggest the vicious little tyke has been schooled into this R-rated movie so the kiddies will have someone to identify with when they see it on video, but stranger things have happened.

The movie's screenplay is a confusion of half-baked and unfinished ideas.

The most distracting loose end is the suggestion that Murphy, the cop whose organic matter has been recycled into Robocop, may still be human after all. He acts as if he is — driving past his house to look longingly at his wife — but then they reprogramme him to acknowledge that he is only a machine. The way he says that makes us suspect that he's trying to fool his programmers, but then the whole plot thread is dropped and we never find out if he's really human or not.

Then there's the question of who makes a good Robocop. After the initial success of the original model, one prototype Robocop after another self-destructs. They get suicidal, according to scientists in the movie, because they lack a strong sense of duty. That's why the character Murphy made such a good Robocop.

Since each Robocop costs untold millions to develop, the corporation can't waste money on unpromising material. So why do they decide to turn Cain, the drug dealer, into a robot? He's completely whacked out on chemicals all the time, but they steal his brain and stick it in a big, mean robot for no better reason, I suppose, than so Robocop and the new monster can slug it out in the finale.

The final scenes of the movie expend thousands of machine-gun bullets, most of them fired at the bad robot despite the fact that it's manifestly impervious to bullets. The vicious little tyke gets a tender deathbed scene, no doubt out of deference to his tender years. The tycoon and his strategists plan to blame everything on a woman scientist, but the movie ends before they can. And we never find out if Robocop has true human feelings or not.

In fact, we see relatively little of Robocop in this movie. Perhaps Peter Weller rebelled against the inhuman ordeal of wearing that heavy metal suit any longer than necessary.

We do see lots of violence and action, lots of dialogue between minor characters that never pays off, and lots of humorous TV ads for the world of the future. The ads are funny — especially the one that opens the movie.

I didn't much like "Robocop 2" (the use of that killer child is beneath contempt), but it's strange how funny it is, for a movie so bad. Or how bad, for a movie so funny.

## MINI REVIEW

**HELD OVER: "GROSS ANATOMY"** (Touchstone, \$89.95): An engaging performance by the offbeat Matthew Modine does much to enliven this medical-satirical comedy. He plays an unconventional student who challenges his instructor (Christine Lahti) while he pursues an attractive classmate (Daphne Zuniga), and even if the result is rather predictable, it's still considerable fun to get to. \*\* (PG-13, AS, P)



# US SPORTS ROUND UP

## SPORTS FROM THE PRESSBOX

By Lee Lerner

Question: Prior to Nolan Ryan, who was the oldest pitcher to throw a no-hitter?

Answer: Cy Young, age 41.

Question: For all his deeds, what's the one pitching award that has eluded the 43-year-old Ryan?

Answer: The Cy Young. Solution: Give Ryan the American League Cy Young Award this season.

OK, maybe it's too early to pitch a no-hitter award winner. But for Ryan, the facts are in.

Ryan won't have the best numbers in the AL, it's true. And he won't pitch the Texas Rangers in the AL West pennant. All he will have is very respectable numbers and his no-hit gem against Oakland June 11. So any Cy Young votes for Ryan would be strictly sentimental ones.

Six what? Baseball is rooted in sentiment and emotion. What could be more emotional than a middle-aged man pitching his sixth no-hitter against the best team in baseball?

Ryan's credentials — 5,000-plus strikeouts, including 383 Ks in 1973, 12 one-hitters and a no-hitter in each league — will carry him to Cooperstown. But it is unfortunate he's never had a Cy Young season.

It will probably be the same story this year. That is unless the baseball writers were to make a huge exception for the greatest strikeout pitcher ever.

And for Ryan, an exception would be understandable. Because Ryan's career has been just that, exceptional.

## SPORTSLINE

By Dale Dunlap

In February, in this same space, a list of managers who may lose their jobs this season was provided.

At the halfway point, two managers on the list are gone: Davey Johnson of the New York Mets and cross-town buddy Buckle Dent of the Yankees.

But they were easy to predict. Some others are still hanging in there.

Buck Rodgers escaped the chopping block by reviving his declined Expos around youth and good pitching.

Joe Morgan of the Red Sox has Tom Brumansky to point the Green Monster and Roger Clemens is holding together a shinky mound corps. So Morgan got a contract extension and will stay in Beantown — for now.

Russ Nixon of the Braves could not be faulted for the injuries that ruined his club. But his position in Atlanta is tenuous at best, since the Braves are about as far south in the NL West as they are from the Mason-Dixon line.

Others, like Bobby Valentine of Texas and John Wathan of Kansas City, still are twisting slowly in the wind. Wathan, despite protestations of management to the contrary, remains the most likely to go next. The Royals look every bit the underachiever and are not getting any better.

The free-agent signings of Mark Davis for the bullpen and Storm Davis for the rotation look like monumental busts. Not to mention the signing of Richard Dotson, who has never recovered from a circulation problem in his arm. And is Bo Jackson still playing baseball? Haven't seen much of him, except shots of him breaking bats over his knee and those incessant commercials.

Wathan deserves better, but the bottom line dictates ...

So the second half begins and it's open season on managers again.

# ROCK TRACKS

By Joel Zarrow

Blilly Idol and former Doors drummer John Densmore got together to play at the wrap party for Oliver Stone's "The Doors" feature. The way I hear it, Idol danced about waving his crutch that accompanies him because of leg surgery after his Feb. 6 motorcycle accident. Idol performed several of his old tunes and a couple of rock 'n' roll staples with the lyrics reworked to contain language and innuendoes that would have made reppers 2 Live Crew seem like nursery school kids.

Densmore certainly had something to party about considering he just got a hefty advance from Delecorie Press for his tell-all recollections as a member of The Doors. The book will be out in September, six months before the film hits the screens.

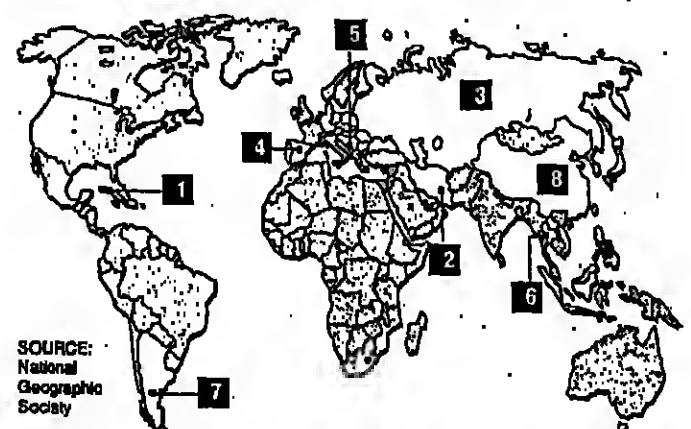
Paul Simon has finally given a name to his latest musical endeavor — "The Rhythm of the Saints." Details of the album are scarce, but a spokesman for Simon tells me that the smooth J.J. Cale and legendary sax-blower Michael Brecker back Simon up on several tracks. He goes on to describe the album as "a mixture of three different worlds. It has West African guitar, percussion from Brazil and writing and singing from Simon." Expect to see it in the stores by late September. Weir Al Yankovic is working on an album he describes as "Soul-rock-surf-punk-country & western-easy listening style polka music." What? "Yeah, it's something for everyone."

## Geography quiz

Try answering these questions, which are like the ones that 10-to-15-year-olds faced in the first National Geography Bee. For a hint of the answers, look at the numbers on the map below.

1. What is the most populous city in the West Indies?
2. Farsi is the official language of which Southwest Asian country?
3. What country has the largest land area?
4. The flamenco is a dance associated with which European country?
5. Albania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria are on what peninsula?
6. Which Southeast Asian country has never been ruled by a European country?
7. What are the rich farmlands of Argentina called?
8. In what country do most strains of influenza develop?

For answers, see box at bottom.



Answers: 1. Havana 2. Iran 3. Soviet Union 4. Spain 5. Balkan Peninsula 6. Thailand 7. Pampas 8. China

SOURCE: National Geographic Society

KRTN Infographics/JUDY TREIBER

## MAGICWORD

HOW TO PLAY: Read the list of words. Look at the puzzle. You'll find these words in all directions — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Draw a circle around each letter of a word found in the puzzle, then strike it off the list. Cautions: It will show a letter has been used but will leave it visible should it also form part of another word. Find the big word first. When letters of all listed words are circled, you'll have the given number of letters left over. They'll spell out your MAGICWORD.

POUR ME SOME COFFEE (Sol.: 9 letters)  
A-Aroma; B-Beans, Black, Blend, Boll, Brazil, Brewed; C-Cafelina, Cuke, Cold, Columbia, Cream, Cuba, Cups; D-Dark, Delicious, Dinner, Drink, Drip; F-Filter, Flakes, Fresh; G-Good, Grind, Gulp; H-Hot; I-Instant; J-Jar, Java; L-Liquid, Lunch; M-Mild, Milk, Mocha, Mugs; P-Perk, Pour; R-Roasted; S-Satisfy, Saucer, Smell, Spoon, Stir, Sugar; W-Warm, Water

This Week's Answer: BREAKFAST

## TOP POP ALBUMS

1. I'm Breathless, Madonna, Warner Bros.
2. Please Hammer Don't Hurt 'Em, M.C. Hammer, Capitol
3. I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got, Sinead O'Connor, Ensign
4. Pretty Women, Soundtrack, EMI
5. Brigade, Heart, Capitol
6. Polson, Bell Biv DeVoe, MCA
7. Shut Up and Dance, Paula Abdul, Virgin
8. Wilson Phillips, Wilson Phillips, SBK
9. Soul Provider, Michael Bolton, Columbia
10. Violator, Depeche Mode, Sire

## TOP VIDEO RENTALS

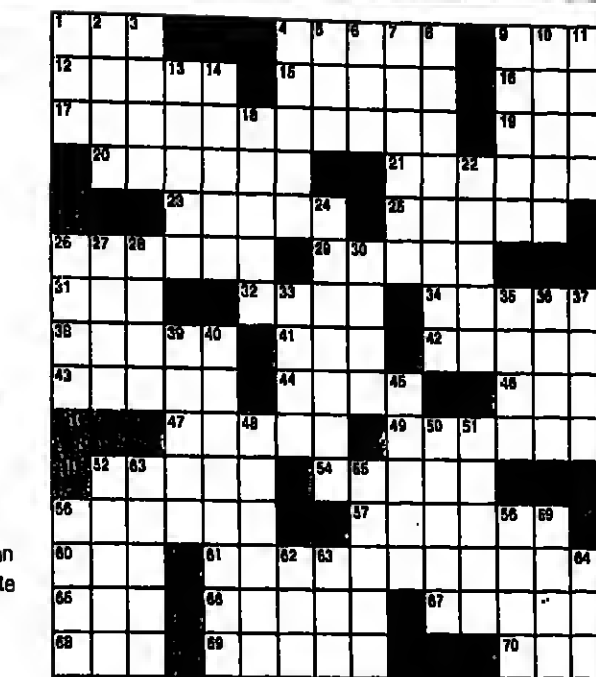
1. Back to the Future Part II, Michael J. Fox, Christopher Lloyd, MCA/Universal Home Video (PG-1989)
2. Look Who's Talking, John Travolta, Kirstie Alley, RCA/Columbia Home Video (PG-13-1989)
3. Black Rain, Michael Douglas, Andy Garcia, Paramount Home Video (R-1989)
4. The Little Mermaid, Animated, Walt Disney Home Video (G-1989)
5. The Fabulous Baker Boys, Jeff Bridges, Beau Bridges, IVE (R-1989)
6. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation, Chevy Chase, Warner Home Video (PG-13-1989)
7. Sea of Love, Al Pacino, Ellen Barkin, MCA/Universal Home Video (R-1989)
8. Harlem Nights, Eddie Murphy, Richard Pryor, Paramount Home Video (R-1989)

## TOP POP SINGLES

1. It Must Have Been Love, Roxette, EMI
2. Do You Remember?, Phil Collins, Atlantic
3. Step By Step, New Kids on the Block, Columbia
4. Polson, Bell Biv DeVoe, MCA
5. Hold On, Wilson Phillips, SBK
6. U Can't Touch This, M.C. Hammer, Capitol
7. All I Wanna Do Is Make Love to You, Heart, Capitol
8. I'll Be Your Shelter, Taylor Dayne, Arista
9. Ready or Not, After 7, Virgin
10. Vogue, Madonna, Warner Bros.

## Crossword Puzzle

- ACROSS
1. I'm (generally)
  4. — of God
  9. Command to a dog
  12. Carpenter, for one
  15. Old Portuguese coin
  16. Pub order
  17. Children's game
  18. Ballerine
  19. Slawenska
  20. Draftsman's tool
  21. Driver's annoyance
  23. Doctrine
  25. Construction piece
  26. Emulate what
  28. Harsh to the taste
  29. Agad. Abbr.
  31. Blunder
  32. Traffic sign
  34. S. Pacific sea



## Solution

- DOWN
1. Residue
  2. Omit
  3. Nurse's
  4. Confuse
  5. C.P.A.'s interest
  6. Presidential nickname
  7. Commendation
  8. Honor
  9. Refect
  10. Pacific island group
  11. Latin nomenclature
  12. Rip apart
  13. Fastina
  14. Fastened a sneaker
  15. Padres and Pirates
  16. Wyo.'s
  17. Range
  18. Follows of a Chinese religion
  19. Dissanting body
  20. A wife of Al Johnson
  21. Paek lightly
  22. Collection of poems
  23. Unlagnad
  24. Craze
  25. State
  26. Do it
  27. 1928 song
  28. Froth
  29. Pop
  30. Black bird
  31. Beguile
  32. Durable labor
  33. Autocretis
  34. Kind of horticulture
  35. Representative
  36. They turn litmus
  37. Hold out
  38. Throw lightly
  39. Faner's weapon
  40. Miniver or Grundy
  41. Quilcha Lorraine
  42. Suffix with exist

## Jordan Bridge

By Ghassan Ghanem

### Never argue with computer experts

Client Maerbarbas, a local computer expert, gave me the following hand, which I found it very interesting from more than an angle.

South dealer  
Nobodysul.  
♠ 7  
♥ 854  
♦ J9732

♠ 2  
♥ A1053  
♦ K97  
♣ KQ864

♠ AQ109863  
♥ 62  
♦ A10  
♣ A

South started correctly by 2♠ opening, it is a good opening since all the requirements are there:  
\* A long, strong and lone suit.  
\* Four losers only.  
\* Enough defensive values outside the suit.

The 2♠ opening and responses mechanism are very useful because you know about Aces at a very early stage.

Respondent names his minor suit Ace directly or bids 2♠ to show a major suit Ace. Otherwise 2♥ is negative and 2N is semi positive and shows one king at least with some additional values. The bidding goes on.

East and West did their best to mud the water, but the North bid of 3♥ clarified all what South wanted to know in order to bid the slam.

West led the ♠ 7. Plan how are you going to play the hand.

At one table every thing was simple and easy! South cashed the ♠ A (best since there are no voids in N-S

hands and South hand included a single honour) and played a small heart and West played the ♥ J (to show the count), the ♥ K from dummy taken by the ♠ A.

East played back the ♠ K which was ruffed and declarer had three entries to ruff two hearts and to enjoy the then established fifth heart for a diamond discard.

On the other table West followed with small heart and East did not take the ♥ K with his ♠ A.

Then, the declarer was deprived of one of the essential entries to establish the heart suit by ruffing and he had no idea regarding the distribution of the heart honours.

Declarer who cashed the ♠ A earlier was then in dummy with two other available entries but he was not in a position to ruff a heart yet.

If the hearts were 5-1, then there is no hope. If they were 3-3 there is no difference, however you play, you have two entries to ruff the third heart and cash one of the established hearts. Accordingly, the distribution you should make account for is the 4-2 heart distribution.

Note that at this stage you have no direct entry to your hand without exposing a diamond trick or wasting a spade.

So, you have to play hearts from dummy now. A small heart would drop an original doubleton Ace, but the ♥ Q drops an original doubleton ♥ J or ♥ 10.

"I played the ♥ Q and dropped the ♥ J together with the ♠ A and went back to dummy to play the ♥ 9 and ruff East's heart ten to go back again to dummy via the ♠ A," Client explained. "But why didn't you try to drop the ♠ A?" I asked. "The chances to drop the ♥ J or the ♥ 10 are as twice as much since they are two com-

## JEANE DIXON'S Your Horoscope



ARIES (21 March - 19 April): Feel free to experiment this week. Financial pressures lessen when you obtain a loan. Arranging a monthly payment schedule will reduce stress. Loved one makes fewer demands. Not a good week for launching new projects. Review accounts and answer correspondence. Emotional matters will require careful handling. You may be cast in the role of mediator.

TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): Although your finances remain sensitive, a solution is in sight. Try new methods. Romance looks both exciting and stony. Seek a better understanding of your loved one's needs. A loved one helps you discover hidden resources. Keep your emotions in check. Hasty decisions could work against you. Do not expect your co-workers to be understanding. Spend more time with loved ones.

GEMINI (21 May - 20 June): Keep a watchful eye on leisure-time spending. A good credit rating is especially important now. Sharing your thoughts and plans with your loved ones things you closer together. Community work holds special appeal now. Your reticence in business affairs will work in your advantage. You benefit from changing your plans to accommodate others.

CANCER (21 June - 22 July): Do not become impatient. Finish one project before starting another. Open up fresh avenues of communication with partners and potential allies. Attend an alumni meeting. Higher earnings are only part of the good news this week. A personal relationship improves beyond belief. Friends prove helpful where your private affairs are concerned. Follow up any hunches.

LEO (23 July - 22 Aug.): Keep an open mind to new methods and ideas. Take shortcuts only if you will get the same results. An authority figure is evaluating your work performance. Move ahead with confidence. You need cooperation from key officials to move forward. An old project may have to be redone; rising costs could necessitate a budget revision. Assert your independence. Correct a bad habit.

VIRGO (23 Aug. - 22 Sept.): Try to see the other person's point of view. A compromise will surely result. Getting better organized will boost your efficiency. Try harder to break a bad habit. Your relationship with a new colleague shows signs of improvement. Be patient. Some good news may be announced this week. Say "yes" in a loved one's suggestion for evening entertainment.

LIBRA (23 Sept. - 22 Oct.): New benefits and rewards are forthcoming. Remain patient and serene if unexpected complications arise. Cooperation and tact will win you valued supporters. Spend more time with offspring. The acquisition of a luxury item will bring you much pleasure. Sign contracts and legal documents. Your income is about to rise. Devote more effort to your personal relationships.

SCORPIO (23 Oct. - 21 Nov.): Self-improvement projects are favored. Practice small economies. A marital situation turns around when you give loved one a friendly nudge. Be willing to make your own decisions. Financial pressures ease. Recycle an old idea to reap new profits. Be willing to test your theories. The agreements you make now will bring rewards in the near future. Share your thoughts.

SAGITTARIUS (22 Nov. - 21 Dec.): The pieces of a puzzle fall into place. Financial plans proceed without a hitch. Be more discreet about activities that can increase your know-how. Take the initiative in romance. Take the lead in correcting a distressing situation. Meet your co-workers more than halfway. A platonic relationship takes on new overtones. Keep a tight rein on your purse strings.

CAPRICORN (22 Dec. - 19 Jan.): Choose your words carefully to preserve domestic harmony. Your creative energy will be at an all-time high. Take a conservative approach to finances. A relationship needs nurturing. A good day to tie up loose ends. Tend to your interests and contacts abroad. Get in touch with experts who can help you market a creative idea. Jointly owned funds grow steadily.

AQUARIUS (20 Jan. - 18 Feb.): Deal with an undercurrent of secrecy in a positive way. A loved one's behaviour could be cause for concern. Neither listen to nor repeat gossip. Get the facts from those directly involved. Flexible people find new opportunities for career growth now. Team-work is the key to greater financial gains. Do not be afraid to take calculated risks. Only you know if a personal choice is right.

PISCES (19 Feb. - 20 March): Give your health top priority. Expect others to voice some uncertainty about your plans for major changes. Take possible opposition into account before making any permanent moves. A great day to analyse your financial holdings. A stranger who comes to your aid is not inspired by romance. Show your gratitude appropriately. Now social doors begin to open to you.

THIS WEEK'S CHILDREN are charming, self-assured and generous. They admire strength in others and may try to push around those they find weak or wistly-wistly. A craving for success makes these children real go-getters. Born showmen, they will love to perform whether on stage, screen or in the board room. A grand lifestyle is a part of their plans. Hard workers, they may express bewilderment if others resent their ostentatious display of wealth. They feel that they have earned and deserve the best!

**Trivia Treat**

**HOW FAST DOES LIGHTNING TRAVEL?**

FEET, DO YOUR THING!

**WHERE DID THE WORD SOPHOMORE ORIGINATE?**

**WHAT STATES MOTO IS "EUREKA"?**

**WHAT IS THE NORMAL BODY TEMPERATURE OF A HORSE?**

ANSWERS:

1. 100,000 MILES A SECOND  
2. CALIFORNIA  
3. 100.5 F.  
4. HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Algerian	641271/2
Arab Republic of Yemen	642381
Australian	637246/7
Austrian Embassy	674750/50
Bahrain	664148
Belgian	675063/3
Canadian	666124
Chilean	661356
Cyprus/Hungary Cons.	661336
Czechoslovakian	661155
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**Folklore Museum:** Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Ramen Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. year round. Tel 651760.

**Jordan Archaeological Museum:** Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. (Jabal Al-Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

**Jordan National Gallery:** Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries, and a collection of paintings by 19th century Orientalist artists. Munatazh, Jabal Welbdch. Hours 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

**St. Joseph Church:** (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590

**Church of the Annunciation:** (Roman Catholic) Jabal Welbdeh, Tel. 637440.

**De la Salle Church:** (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757.

**Terrasantu Church:** (Roman Catholic), Jabal Welbdeh, mass in Italian every Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

**Church of the Redeemer:** Jabal  
Annan, Tel. 625383.

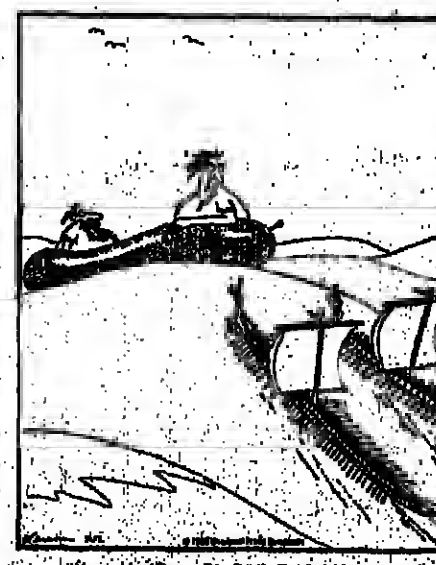
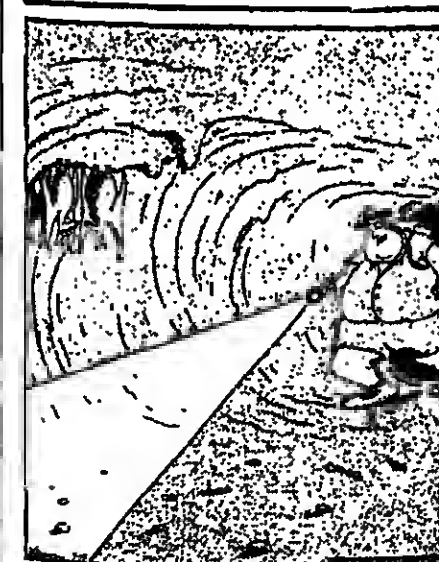
**Armenian Orthodox Church:**  
Ashrafieh, Tel. 775261.

# calvin and HobbEs



## The Far Side

By GARY LARSON



*The Star*

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